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Forecast, cloudy some showers sunny periods
(Details on page 2)

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B.C. LABOR WAR MUST STOP MINES MINISTER DECLARES

Potato Bootleggers May Be in City

Potato bootleggers may be operating in Victoria, a Chamber of Commerce spokesman said yesterday. He warned housewives of a truck selling No. 2 spuds as No. 1 in a door-to-door operation. He urged buyers in doubt of grade to obtain a signed statement and the truck licence number. Every sack should carry a grading tag.

No Charges

Soviet 'Thief' Freed

NEW YORK (AP)—Charges dropped and merchandise returned. That summed up the situation Thursday in the case of Macy's and the touring Russian dancer accused of taking $42.41 worth of merchandise from the department store.

The dancer, Gennady Petrovitch Lvov, 41, a native of Moscow, was brought into night court Tuesday and then released on $500 bail on a charge of petty larceny. Detectives said he had such items as a brassiere, a handbag, 23 neckties and five pairs of socks under his coat when arrested.

MISUNDERSTANDING

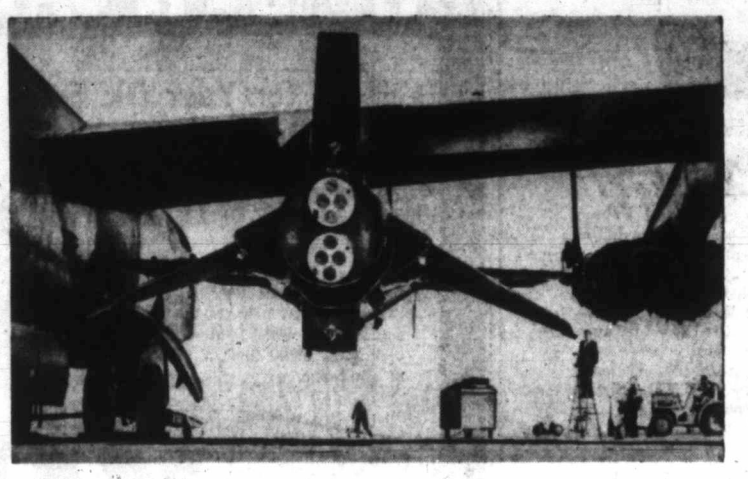
Lvov is a member of the touring Beryozka Folk Dancing Company, sponsored here by Sol Hurok. The impressario commented that the whole thing "was a misunderstanding due to the language problems."

After Macy's announced the dropping of charges and return of the goods yesterday afternoon, no comment was available from Soviet diplomatic sources here. The U.S. state department was similarly mum.

SIMILAR INCIDENTS

Two similar incidents have occurred abroad, with touring Russians accused of shoplifting.

In Brussels, the offender was not prosecuted. In a better-known incident, discus champion Nina Ponomareva was convicted of stealing five hats worth $4.68 from a London store. She finally went to court, denied the theft, paid $8.82 in court costs and went home.



Space Baby Tucked Under Mother's Wing

A huge B-52 shelters the X-15—research aircraft that is designed to carry man to the threshold of space. The mother plane will drop the X-15 at an altitude of approximately 38,000 feet. The tests are scheduled for this month with the B-52 tracking its baby with TV eyes.

$2,761,000 for Island

$6,500,000 For B.C.

A province-wide federal public works program for British Columbia totalling nearly $6,500,000 was outlined in 1959-60 estimates of appropriations, in Ottawa yesterday.

Vancouver Island's share of $2,761,000 was more than a third of the proposed outlay in the province for public buildings and harbor and river improvements.

All but $330,000 of the estimate for Island projects was for port improvement work.

TURKEY HEAD

Included in the list was $200,000 for construction of a breakwater from Turkey Head in Oak Bay to create a small boat basin. Announcement of the estimate to cover cost of the long-wanted boat shelter followed previous reports by Victoria Conservative MP, A. DeB. McPhillips.

A $25,000 estimate for harbor repairs and improvements in Victoria was also included.

Biggest item in the immediate area was $275,000 for the ferry terminal at Sidney to be leased by Washington State Ferries as part of the company's announced improved service with larger ferries for the Sidney-Anacortes run.

$40,000 EARMARKED

Also earmarked for Sidney was $40,000 for other harbor improvements.

But big allotment on the Island went to Port Alberni, where public works estimates covered $697,000 worth of building. The list included $250,000 to complete the new federal building due for service by the summer of 1960 with accommodation for post office and other federal offices.

It was the largest single outlay on the Island in the public building category.

PORT ALBERNI

Port Alberni spending includes $400,000 toward construction of the assembly wharf plus $47,900 for improvements to the fishing harbor.

Campbell River is ticketed for $30,000 to complete the federal building there and a major item of $250,000 on the federal government's share of the village's big harbor improvement program.

Provincially the estimates affected communities from Nakusp in the interior to Wiah Point in the Queen Charlottes, but major share of the money was pointed to West Coast works.

On the west coast of Vancouver Island the list included $216,000 for a boat basin at Tofino, $67,000 for a boat basin at Zeballos and $31,500 for a wharf and float construction at historic Nootka.

Included with the Island spending is $330,000 estimate for a boat harbor at Rough Bay, Sointula.

Wartime Spending Dwarfed

All records for federal government expenditure are expected to fall in coming fiscal year. Finance Minister Fleming's estimates given to Commons yesterday totalled massive $6,173-448,557 — over one billion more than peak wartime spending. Increased taxation was forecast to meet huge program. Fleming's estimates appear fully with other stories on page 5.

Queen's Tour Cost Out

OTTAWA (CP) — The government is setting aside $300,000 now for expenses of the Queen's summer visit.

The sum is included in estimates tabled Thursday in Parliament. It is intended to pay persons planning the tour and expenses arising from it.

* * *

MINES MINISTER KIERNAN
. . . a bigger pie

Defends Socreds In Sommers Case

British Columbia's "cold war" between management and labor has got to stop, a Social Credit cabinet minister said yesterday.

Mines Minister Kiernan was cheered from all sections of the legislature when he said that a spirit of co-operation must prevail between management and labor and declared:

"This cold war between some sections of labor leaders and some sections of the labor management field has got to stop . . .

GET OUT AND BAKE

"If we want to divide a bigger pie we've got to get out and bake a bigger pie."

The way to create employment was by industrial development, Mr. Kiernan said.

He defended the Social Credit government's power and education policies and said the government was not abandoning the government-operated B.C. Power Commission. Capital investment in the power commission has risen from $6,000,000 in 1952 to $51,000,000 in 1958.

CLOSING SPEECH

The minister was the closing speaker in the throne speech debate which has occupied the legislature since it opened Jan. 22.

The CCF opposition of 10 opposed endorsement of the traditional address in reply to the Speech from the Throne delivered by the Lieutenant-Governor on opening day. The address in reply was finally endorsed by a vote of 35-14 with the House's two Liberals and two Independents supporting the CCF.

"You have no confidence," Premier Bennett said to CCF leader Strachan in an aside across the floor.

"We have no confidence in you to carry out the things you said you would carry out," shot back the opposition leader.

The windup of the throne speech debate made way for today's presentation of the provincial budget by the premier in his role as finance minister.

WILD APPLAUSE

Mines Minister Kiernan, to the wild applause of his Social Credit supporters, made a spirited defence of his government's action in the Sommers case.

He said he had "every confidence in both the legal and moral integrity" of Attorney-General Robert Bonner. The attorney-general has been strongly criticized by the CCF opposition for an alleged delay of two years in laying charges revolving around former lands and forests minister Robert Sommers.

Sommers was convicted of bribery and conspiracy while in office and was sentenced to

Continued on Page 3

Budget Speech Today

Government policy for the coming fiscal year, starting April 1, will be outlined in the legislature today when Premier Bennett starts his budget address at 3 p.m.

Opposition Leader Robert Strachan will lead off the budget debate Monday afternoon.

Fraud, Deceit

Big Wall Street Brokers Cited

WASHINGTON (UPI)—The securities and exchange commission Thursday accused the big Wall Street brokerage firm of Reynolds & Co. with fraud, deceit and forgery in security sales and management.

The brokerage and underwriting house has offices in eight states and includes among its partners President Eisenhower's golfing companion, Clifford Roberts. Its officials were ordered to appear at a hearing in San Francisco next Tuesday to answer charges.

A Spokane, Wash., brokerage firm, Cleek-Tindell Co., Inc., also was charged with "fraud and deceit" in connection with the Reynolds case. It similarly was ordered to be present at next Tuesday's hearing.

Some of the most severe charges, the result of two years of investigation, involved the sale by the two firms of securities in uranium properties.

Space Chief Worried About Cash

WASHINGTON (UPI) — Army missile chief Brig. Gen. John A. Barclay said yesterday the administration has refused him funds for projects which would put the United States in its "rightful place" in space exploration within a few years.

He was the third space commander to tell the committee that more money was needed.

Russia Visit Official

Mac Flies On Feb. 21

LONDON (UPI) — Prime Minister Harold Macmillan officially announced Thursday he would fly to Moscow Feb. 21 on a cold war mission to seek a way out of the "almost dangerous situation which may develop in Europe."

He said he would try to clear up Soviet confusion about Western policies and determine first hand where the Russians stood. He will be accompanied by Foreign Secretary Selwyn Lloyd. They expect to spend a week to 10 days in the Soviet Union.

Macmillan made the announcement to the House of Commons after talks with Secretary of State John Foster Dulles. He said it had the approval of Britain's NATO allies.

Sahara Split Suggested By Tunisia

TUNIS (Reuters) — President Habib Bourguiba of Tunisia said Thursday the Sahara should either be divided among the countries bordering on it or administered by the neighboring countries in association.

The southern frontiers of Tunisia and French-controlled Algeria bordering on the Sahara are ill-defined and have been the cause of disputes between France and Tunisia.

Fines Routine Same All Over

Touring Police Chief Set Out to Break Law

WINNIPEG (CP) — Police Chief Robert Taft said Wednesday he deliberately violated minor traffic regulations and was fined in several American cities to test their policy regarding tourists.

The chief gave the information as he appeared before the police commission to oppose any traffic law exemptions for tourists on parking law infractions and other minor traffic law violations.

The only fine that annoyed the chief came when he backed his car into a parking stall while a traffic policeman watched. He found a ticket when he came back saying he should have nosed into the stall.

For this sort of ticketing, said the chief, "I would have torn the hide off one of my men . . . for failure to advise a driver of a regulation."

New Sirens Will Alert Vancouver

VANCOUVER (CP)—Traffic noise here is getting so bad, residents might not hear a civil defence alert, civil defence co-ordinator F. V. Heakes said yesterday.

So 18 new and more powerful sirens will be installed in the Greater Vancouver area in the next few months.

Don't Miss

Gas Scandal Flares Anew
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* * *
Draw Welfare Line Or All Will Apply
(Page 3)
* * *
Brawny Wally Pays His Debt
(Names in News, Page 3)
* * *
Khrushchev Urges Ike to Visit Russia
(Page 14)
* * *

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Top Servants To Get More

OTTAWA (CP)—Nearly all top civil servants will be given healthy salary increases in the new fiscal year starting April 1.

City Man's Case Aired in Commons

MP Mentions Bill of Rights

Minister Defends Argyle Scolding

OTTAWA (CP) — The government scientist who described the United States' Atlas satellite as a "rubbishy propaganda stunt" was let off with a simple reprimand because of his good record, Mines Minister Comtois told the Commons Thursday.

Mr. Comtois, replying to a question from H. W. Herridge (CCF-Kootenay West), said that a letter of reprimand sent to E. R. Argyle of Victoria accused him of violating an unstated rule of "prudence and reticence" in public statements by civil servants. The letter was sent Jan. 5 by Marc Boyer, deputy mines minister.

Mr. Argyle had criticized the Atlas, launched late last year and now no longer aloft. It broadcast a tape-recorded message from President Eisenhower.

Mr. Comtois said that Mr. Argyle, member of the Dominion observatory station near Victoria often was assigned to handle questions from the press and public. Telephoned at home by a reporter, he had expressed a personal opinion, Mr. Comtois said. This was "reprehensible" and the remarks were offensive and rash.

Then he read the letter written by Mr. Boyer.

It said that Mr. Argyle's remarks had proved "most embarrassing" to the Dominion observatories across the country, to the minister, the department and the government as a whole.

It had violated an unstated rule of prudence and reticence to be followed by public servants. Were it not for Mr. Argyle's good record, the letter added, the mines minister would have wished to go farther than a simple reprimand.

Mr. Herridge asked Mr. Comtois whether he would define the exact limits of "prudence and reticence, especially for a civil servant in his home."

Speaker Roland Michener suggested the matter might better be raised as a written question. Then, asked Mr. Herridge, did the mines minister believe that his own attitude violated the bill of rights advocated by the prime minister? There was no reply.

* * *

EDWARD ARGYLE
". . . rubbishy stunt"

* * *

MINES MINISTER COMTOIS
. . . most embarrassing

* * *

W. H. HERRIDGE
. . . cites bill of rights